

(F:\TT\BL\PRIO\NM\26805WO\26805ENC.DOC Prt: 07.04.2005 BL)

- 14 -

Claims

1. Dressing aid (10, 40) for putting on an article of clothing (39) having at least one opening,

5 the dressing aid comprising a mounting portion (17a, 17b, 47a, 47b, 67a, 67b) for at least partially slipping on the article of clothing and

an expanding mechanism (11a, 11b, 14, 41a, 41b, 44) for expanding the mounting portion, thereby widening the
10 opening of the mounted article of clothing, characterized in that

the dressing aid comprises locking means (24, 25, 79, 80, 82a, 82b) which prevent the contraction of the mounting portion while the article of clothing is mounted.

15

2. Dressing aid according to claim 1, characterized in that the expanding mechanism comprises a connecting member (14, 44) and two legs (11a, 11b, 41a, 41b) that are hinged to the connecting member.

20

3. Dressing aid according to one of claims 1 to 2, characterized in that the mounting portion comprises bows (17a, 17b, 47a, 47b, 67a, 67b) that are preferably essentially U-shaped.

25

4. Dressing aid according to one of claims 2 to 3, characterized in that the legs (11a, 11b, 41a, 41b) are each provided with a bow (17a, 17b, 47a, 47b) which is preferably removable.

30

5. Dressing aid according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the mounting portion comprises an intermediate portion (66) comprising two bows (71a, 71b),

(F:\TT\BL\PRIORANM\26805WO\26805ERG.DOC PTE: 07.04.2005 BL)

- 15 -

thereby allowing to mount particularly an article of clothing having two openings to the mounting portion, the bows preferably being U-shaped and more preferably removable.

5

6. Dressing aid according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the locking means comprise at least one of the following components:

- a locking element (24, 25) that is rotatable and lockable,
- 10 - a locking element (79, 80) that is displaceable and lockable,
- a ratchet (82a, 82b),
- a clamping lock.

15

7. Dressing aid according to one of claims 2 to 6, characterized in that the ends (26a, 26b, 56a, 56b) of the legs are rounded so that they can be moved across a surface with little resistance while putting on the article of clothing.

20

8. Dressing aid according to one of claims 2 to 7, characterized in that the legs comprise an extensible end (56a, 56b) so that the length of the legs is adaptable to the size of the opening of the article of clothing.

25

9. Dressing aid according to one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it comprises a handle (28) connected to the expanding mechanism for holding and guiding the dressing aid, the handle having at least one, preferably all

30 of the following features:

- the handle length is adjustable,
- the handle is connected to the expanding mechanism by means of a hinge (30),

(F:\IT\PL\PROGRAM\26805KO\26805ENG.DOC Pgt: 07.04.2005 BL)

- 16 -

- the handle is removably connected to the expanding mechanism by means of a fastener (32).

10. Dressing aid according to one of claims 1 to 9,
5 characterized in that it further comprises a catch hook (36) allowing to clamp the article of clothing in order to pick it up from the floor before dressing, for example.

11. Dressing aid according to one of claims 1 to 10,
10 characterized in that the expanding mechanism comprises retaining means (77) allowing an additional attachment of the mounted article of clothing.

12. Dressing aid (90) for removing an article of clothing
15 (39) having at least one opening, more particularly an article of hosiery, characterized in that
the dressing aid comprises two spread guide portions (96a, 96b) for expanding the opening so that the article of clothing that is being worn can be removed by introducing
20 the guide portions into the opening.

13. Dressing aid according to claim 12, characterized in that the guide portions (96a, 96b) are rigidly connected to a center portion (91) and a recess (98) is provided between
25 the guide portions which can be moved toward the heel along the Achilles' tendon essentially for removing particularly an article of hosiery.

14. Dressing aid according to one of claims 12 to 13,
30 characterized in that the guide portions (96a, 96b) have an approximately mirror-symmetrical shape with an essentially circular contour (97a, 97b).

(F:\TT\BL\PRIORANM\26805WO\26805ENG.DOC Prit: 07.04.2005 BL)

- 17 -

15. Set comprising a first dressing aid according to one
of claims 1 to 11 and a second dressing aid according to one
of claims 12 to 14, characterized in that the first and
second dressing aids each comprise a fastener (32) for their
5 connection with one and the same handle (28).

- - - - -